

SENATE BILL 1021
By Crutchfield

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 10, relative to campaign finance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-10-308, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) The registry of election finance may impose a maximum civil penalty for a violation of this part of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the amount of all contributions made or accepted in excess of the limitations established by this part, whichever is greater.

(b) Penalties imposed under this part shall be deposited into the state general fund.

(c) To request a waiver or reduction or in any way to contest a penalty imposed by the staff of the registry, a person shall file a petition with the registry. Such petition shall be considered as a contested case proceeding under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

(d) If a civil penalty lawfully assessed against a candidate is not paid within thirty (30) days after the assessment becomes final, then the candidate shall be ineligible to qualify for election to any state or local public office until such penalty is paid with interest.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.